

vInspired schools

A guide to your vInspired schools site

1. Get registered

It's **easy** to get signed up with vInspired Schools.

- 1) Click [Sign up via this school](#)
- 2) Fill in your details to register.
- 3) Click on your name in the menu bar and select View Profile.
- 4) Select Edit profile to complete your profile.

That's it! You're ready to go!

2. Tell us what you've already done

You could be doing lots of volunteering or social action already that you probably don't even realise. You might be a peer mentor, taking part in Duke of Edinburgh, or helping out at a local charity shop. It all counts as volunteering and if you're not, we're here to get you started.

Once you have registered, you can view your profile whenever you want. It is a great place to record all of your volunteering, which is useful when applying for jobs or university.

To add volunteering you are already doing:

- 1) On your profile, click [Add volunteering from outside vInspired](#)
- 2) Tell us what you have been doing.
- 3) Follow the prompts and tell us how much time you have volunteered and don't forget to fill in details of the organisation you have been volunteering with.

3. Find some new opportunities

From your vInspired profile you can search for volunteering opportunities in your school or in your local community. Just find one you are interested in and click apply!

To find volunteering opportunities available to you:

- 1) From your profile click [Search for volunteering](#)
- 2) Click [School opportunities](#) to find opportunities in your school.
- 3) Alternatively, use the search bar or select a volunteering category to search for vInspired opportunities in the community.
- 4) Select and apply for an opportunity that interests you.

4. Get recognised

The vInspired awards recognise the time you commit, the skills you develop and the difference you make through volunteering. The awards help you boost your CV by showing universities and employers evidence of what you have achieved as a volunteer. There are 4 vInspired awards- **v10 for 10 hours** of volunteering, **v30 for 30 hours**, **v50 for 50 hours** and the **v100 for 100 hours** of volunteering.

To get started:

- 1) On your profile click [Find out more about vInspired Awards](#)
- 2) Select your award goal.
- 3) When you have enough hours click [Apply](#) and follow the prompts.

For more information please email: schools@vinspired.com

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Why volunteer?

Be prepared

At school you will be faced with some difficult decisions to make. You will start to ask yourself 'what do I want to do when I leave?'

Now is the time for you to start working out what it is that you want to do. You can think about the things that you enjoy doing and what you would like to do as a job or study at university.

Volunteering offers you the opportunity to try a little bit of everything - retail, office work, working outdoors. The opportunities are endless. The best part is, you can try it, and if you don't like it, you can always try something else!

You got it.

Applying to uni?

When writing your personal statement to UCAS, you might find yourself find yourself lost for words. Applying to university is not just about getting the grades but proving that you are the best candidate. Remember, there are plenty other people out there that want it too, and to get in, you need to stand out.

That's where volunteering comes in. As a volunteer, you will ALWAYS have something to write about. Even if you don't think what you're doing is anything special, you're just being modest. Now's the time to blow your own trumpet.

No problem.

Build a great CV

Getting a job with no experience is hard.

More and more employers are now looking for candidates with experience, and more often than not, as a school leaver, you won't have it. So, what do you put on your CV, when you're looking to land your first job?

Volunteering is the perfect way to gain experience, whilst also demonstrating that you're committed (because you're working for free!), capable (because you learn on the job) and you'll have a reference at the end of it. Don't forget that not only are you gaining that valuable experience that you need, you are also making a difference in your community. Nice.

Remember, even if you're volunteering in a different field to what you actually want to do, transferable skills are highly valued.

Sorted.

Rock the interview

You have been invited to interview for a job and you are worried about what you are going to say.

Don't forget that on the vInspired Schools website, you can write about your volunteering experience as you go along. This is a great starting point for you to work out what you want to discuss in your interview.

Work it.

Stand out from
the crowd.
Volunteer.